

Attorney Docket No.: PENN-0789
Inventors: Siegel et al.
Serial No.: 10/046,504
Filing Date: October 19, 2001
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This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the claims:

Claim 1: (currently amended) A surgically implantable drug delivery system consisting essentially of biodegradable polymer or copolymer selected from the group consisting of polylactide and lactide-co-glycolide copolymer and 20 to 40% haloperidol fabricated into an individual, surgically implantable implant via solvent casting and compression molding at a temperature and pressure which allows the haloperidol-polymer material to flow into a mold for the individual, surgically implantable implant which is surgically implanted underneath the skin of a patient, delivers steady state concentrations of haloperidol to the patient for 5 months or more and is removable from the patient in the event the patient exhibits unwanted side effects following implantation.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): The surgically implantable drug delivery system of claim 1 ~~comprising~~ wherein the biodegradable polymer or copolymer is 50 to 100% polylactide and 0 to 50% polyglycolide.

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Claim 4: (currently amended) A method of producing an individual, surgically implantable implant which is surgically implanted underneath the skin of a patient for delivery of steady state concentrations of haloperidol to the patient for five months or more comprising:

(a) dissolving haloperidol and a biodegradable polymer selected from the group consisting of polylactide and lactide-co-glycolide copolymer in acetone;

(b) solvent casting the haloperidol and biodegradable polymer solution to produce a completely dry haloperidol-polymer material; and

(c) molding under compression the dry haloperidol-polymer material at a temperature and pressure which allows the haloperidol-polymer material to flow into a mold for the individual, surgically implantable implant which is surgically implanted underneath the skin of a patient, delivers steady state concentrations of haloperidol to the patient for 5 months or more, and is removable following implantation into a patient in the event the patient exhibits unwanted side effects following implantation.

Claim 5 (canceled)

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Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 4 wherein the biodegradable polymer comprises 50 to 100% polylactide and 0 to 50% polyglycolide.

Claim 7: (original) A method for treating patients with psychotic conditions and diseases comprising surgically implanting into a patient suffering from a psychotic condition or disease the surgically implantable drug delivery system of claim 1.

Claim 8: (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the surgically implantable drug delivery system is implanted under the skin of a patient between the muscle and dermis.

Claim 9: (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the patient is suffering from schizophrenia.

Claim 10: (original) The method of claim 7 further comprising administering to the patient an antipsychotic drug orally.